

DISCUSSION

Support for New Claims 31 - 40 is found in the Specification description on Page 19 and in Figs 9a, 9b, 10a and 10b.

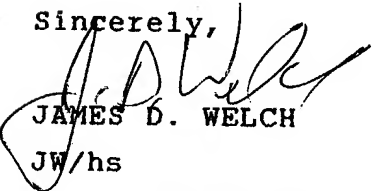
Support for New Claims 41 - 45 is found in the Specification description on Pages 17 - 18 and in Figs 8a - 8e.

It is believed that the limitations added to the Claims via Amendment avoid the Examiner's Rejections.

Note, while not opposed to providing a Terminal Disclaimer, it is believed that it such should not be required in this case as the invention in the Present Application is Patentably Distinct in view of the presence of the Longitudinal Slit. If the Examiner disagrees Applicant will reconsider.

It is now believed that the Pending Claims are in order for Allowance, and the Examiner is therefore respectfully requested to provide Notice of Allowance. Should problems remain, please contact Attorney Welch who is open to Examiner suggestion and Amendment.

Sincerely,



JAMES D. WELCH

JW/hs

enc. NEW ABSTRACT

REPLACEMENT SHEETS FOR FIGS. 1a, 1b, 5c, 5d, 5e, 5f, 7 and 11.